

40 percent of these contracts were awarded to businesses in the District of Columbia, where the project is located.

Regional Contracting Services began in July 2001 with a \$7,000 investment and has grown significantly, reporting annual sales revenue of \$16 million last year, with a bonding capacity of \$2 million per job, and \$10 million in total. Regional Contracting Services has 60 employees, and has been rated among the top 500 "Fastest Growing Companies in America" by Entrepreneur magazine.

Regional Contracting Services has worked on some of the Washington area's top projects, including the Children's National Medical Center, the Mandarin Hotel, the Pentagon, the National Museum of the American Indian, the Walter Washington Convention Center, the Washington Nationals' Baseball Stadium, and the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority—Brentwood Yard Expansion.

Receiving a contract for the DHS headquarters construction project is a testament to Regional Contracting Services' success and motivation for other D.C. small businesses in competition for a share of the DHS headquarters project. The early success of Regional Contracting Services stands as an example to our local businesses, that in a fair competition, they can win. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring both Regional Contracting Services, LLC, in Washington, D.C., as the 2010 D.C. Small Business of the Year, and its founder, Beverly Thomas.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,826,379,456,286.85.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,187,953,709,993.00 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS OF A NATIONAL SIBLINGS DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of establishing a National Siblings Day, a day in which we all reflect upon the ways siblings have enriched our lives. We have a Mother's Day to celebrate our mothers, and a Father's Day to celebrate our fathers. Establishing a Siblings Day would allow us an opportunity to celebrate and honor our siblings and would give every family member a day to be celebrated.

Claudia Ewart is a constituent of mine in New York. She has worked tirelessly over the

past several years to make April 10th the official day we reflect upon the importance of our siblings.

April 10th would mark the birthday of Ms. Ewart's sister, Lisette, who died tragically in an accident that also took the life of her father in 1972. Lisette was only 19 years old. Just 14 years later, in 1986, Ms. Ewart's older brother, Alan, died in an accident in his home at the young age of 36.

Siblings significantly affect our lives and shape who we are. Siblings are a major part of our family, and often when our parents are gone our siblings are the only family we have left. And sometimes we lose our siblings at an early age, as with Ms. Ewart's tragic experience. A National Siblings Day would help us honor and celebrate siblings and aid us in remembering the siblings that we have lost.

I applaud Ms. Ewart's hard work over the past 14 years to create a National Siblings Day, and with it a loving tribute to her deceased siblings. Her dedicated efforts are inspirational. Since 1998, 33 governors have issued gubernatorial proclamations in their states for Siblings Day: AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, IL, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MS, MO, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, WV, WA, WI and WY. I urge my colleagues to recognize the importance of siblings by adding their support to Ms. Ewart's endeavors, and to the goals of a National Siblings Day.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DORIS MARIE THOMPSON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I commemorate the life and service of Doris Marie Thompson, a tireless victims' rights advocate from San Antonio, Texas, who passed away on March 18, 2010.

Doris began her life of service to the cause of victims' rights following the murder of her 26-year-old daughter, J'Anna Marie Tebbs. Over the course of two decades, Doris spent countless hours counseling fellow parents and using her own tragedy to discourage other violent crimes.

In 1999, Doris worked with Raven Kazen Hauge to establish the first Victim Services Division in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The division allows a victim's family and friends to be notified of the offender's parole hearings and to directly petition parole board members. Doris was also heavily involved with a branch of the division known as the Victim Impact Panel. There, she would retell the story of her daughter's murder to groups of probationers in hopes that hearing it would dissuade them from committing violent crimes.

Doris Marie Thompson dedicated her life to pursuing justice and care for victims. These are the values that the Victims' Rights Caucus seeks to emulate and celebrate. I thank Doris for her work and honor her life as a shining example of tireless advocacy for victims.

IN HONOR OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE V. GEORGE CAREY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the career of The Honorable State Representative V. George Carey. A member of Delaware's House of Representatives for the past 26 years and president of Carey Farms, Inc., Representative Carey is a man who has given much to his community and his state, but most of all, has served his constituents of the 36th District with honor and humility. Representative Carey is retiring after an accomplished and unique career in the General Assembly, and his presence in the State House will be greatly missed.

George was elected in 1984 to the State House of Representatives; the same year I was first elected Governor of the State of Delaware. I had the privilege of working with George for eight years while I was in Dover, and have fond memories of that time. George will leave behind an indelible legacy in the General Assembly for his efforts with land conservation, tax-ditch reform, and most of all, an outstanding commitment to the constituents he represented.

As one of only two active farmers serving in the General Assembly, George has built a reputation in the State House as an authority on agricultural issues, and has used that expertise to be a positive force on behalf of farmers throughout Delaware. He has been a member of the Agriculture Committee for more than two decades, and his retirement will leave a void of leadership and knowledge that will be extremely difficult to fill. Representative Carey helped create the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Program, noted to be among the most successful initiatives of its kind in the nation. His leadership with the program extended beyond the halls of the General Assembly, when he became one of the first farmers in the state to enter his farmland into the program. Last year, George was given the Delaware Association of Conservation Districts' Legislative Award for his career service and devotion to conservation efforts. In addition to land conservation, George was instrumental in reforming Delaware's tax-ditch system. He served on the Tax Ditch Right-of-Way Task Force, and sponsored House Bill 452, which addressed and corrected many issues that had resulted from a confusing and archaic system.

Throughout the past two and half decades as the Representative for the 36th District, George has worked diligently as a delegate for his constituents, ensuring that they have a voice in the General Assembly. He has pushed for reform when needed, as shown by his efforts to develop a solution for the tax-ditch issue. And when common sense calls for conservation, he has tirelessly advocated for such measures. As a long-time member of the Joint Bond Bill Committee, he has been instrumental in improving and enhancing the community he serves. George has secured funding to bring a variety of projects to his district, such as the Milford and Milton Riverwalks, the Milford Library, the Greater Milford Boys & Girls Club, and the Milton Museum.